National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 28, 2011

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT:

Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the NIA & AIAA

Iuncheon on August 11, 2011

On August 11, 2011, the National Institute of Aerospace (NIA) and American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a non-profit under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a morning coffee and luncheon at University of Maryland, College Park, Riggs Alumni Center, from 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM and Noon – 1:30 PM.

Approximately 250 people are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the event including all food and beverages is \$20.00 per person. The luncheon will be attended by representatives of the aerospace industry, trade associations, academia, representatives of other non-profit organizations, NASA, and other Federal agencies. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. The event will be co-located with the NASA 2011 Future Forum and will provide additional opportunities to discuss innovation. Attendance at the event will provide NASA attendees with the opportunity to discuss science and exploration related issues with other guests. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsor, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the AIAA and the NIA such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Adam F. Greenstone